

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 – 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) A storage unit for storing a flexible elongated object, the storage unit having a storage unit length, the storage unit comprising:

_____ a first winding region having a first winding region length, wherein the first winding region length is parallel to the storage unit length;

_____ a second winding region having a second winding region length, wherein the second winding region length is parallel to the storage unit length;

_____ a tapered slot, comprising at least two successive pairs of nubs on opposite walls of the tapered slot, wherein both pairs of nubs are configured to grip a single cord and
The storage unit of claim 2, wherein the successive pairs of nubs progressively decrease in size according to the distance from an open end of the tapered slot; and

_____ a post between the first winding region and the second winding region.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The storage unit of claim 3, wherein the tapered slot tapers to a point .

Claim 5 (currently amended) The storage unit of claim 23, wherein a first winding region inner length is substantially equal to a second winding region inner length.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The storage unit of claim 23, wherein the slot is configured to flex.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The storage unit of claim 23, wherein the post is removable.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The storage unit of claim 23, further comprising an inner handle, wherein a portion of the inner handle is located within the first winding region.

Claim 9 (original) The storage unit of claim 8, wherein the inner handle comprises a plurality of ribs.

Claim 10 (original) The storage unit of claim 8, further comprising an outer handle, wherein a portion of the outer handle is located completely outside the first winding region and the second winding region.

Claims 11 – 13 (canceled)

Claims 14 – 20 (not entered)

Claim 21 (currently amended) A device for storing a flexible elongated object,

comprising:

a first portion including:

a handle, having a first end and a second end;

a first retaining portion, including:

a tapered slot having an open end, a closed end, an inner wall and an outer wall, wherein the closed end of the tapered slot is connected to the first end of the handle, and

a winding region connected to the inner wall of the tapered slot at the open end of the tapered slot designed to retain a winding of the flexible elongated object;

a second retaining portion connected to the second end of the elongated handle, configured to mirror the first retaining portion; and

a second portion connected to the first portion, designed to identically mirror the first portion.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The device in claim 21, wherein the handle, tapered slot and winding region are each oriented substantially parallel.

Claim 23 (previously presented) The device in claim 22, wherein the winding region has an outer wall that is substantially planar with the outer wall of the tapered slot.

Claim 24 (previously presented) The device in claim 23, wherein the tapered slot further comprises a pair of nubs attached to the inner wall and outer wall, configured to act in concert to grip the flexible object.

Claim 25 (previously presented) The device in claim 24, further comprising at least two successive pairs of nubs wherein both pairs of nubs are configured to grip, in concert, a single flexible elongated object.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The device in claim 25, wherein the successive pairs of nubs progressively decrease in size according to the distance from the open end of the tapered slot.

Claim 27 (new) The device in claim 21, further comprising a third retaining portion disposed between the first and the second retaining portions.

Claim 28 (new) The device in claim 27, further comprising a fourth retaining portion adjacent to the third retaining portion and disposed between the first and second retaining portions.

Claim 29 (new) The device in claim 21, wherein the tapered slot tapers to a point.

Claim 30 (new) The device in claim 21, wherein the handle comprises a plurality of ribs.

Claim 31 (new) The device in claim 21, further comprising a mounting hole configured to allow the device to be removably attached to a surface.

Claim 32 (new) The device of claim 21, further comprising a center post configured to facilitate changing winding direction.